



The Trail Blazer

OFFICIAL ORGAN METROPOLITAN HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION · OAKLAND, CALIF.



SEPTEMBER, 1951

Nina Curley on Mischief and Jeanne M. Mott on Sanada,
receiving blue ribbons for English Pair
at Metropolitan Horsemen's Ninth Annual Show.

TRAIL RIDE — SEPTEMBER 23

(See Page 3)

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The Trail Blazer

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METROPOLITAN HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
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Alicia G. Coffey . . . Editor
12204 Skyline Blvd. - ANdover 1-2383
Bonny Hooper . . . Assistant Editor
Noni Nichols . . . Assistant Editor
Joella Mahoney . . . Art Editor

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News copy must reach Editor by 15th of month prior to publication; Advertising copy should be sent to Business Manager by the 10th.

ALL COPY SUBJECT TO EDITORIAL REVISION

M. H. A. OFFICERS — 1951

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NEXT BOARD MEETING

Thursday, September 13, 8 p. m.
12204 Skyline Blvd.

M. H. A. OPEN MEETING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4

8 P. M.

PICTURES OF DANIELS' DAY AND HORSE SHOW

REFRESHMENTS

Further details will reach
you by mail

AUGUST RIDE WAS FUN

Although all did not come by the same route, 28 arrived at the arena for lunch following the August 12 Trail Ride.

Present were: Onalee Phillips, A. B. Graham, Es Norris, Marie Mott, Jerry Hansen, Clyde Smith, Carol Cosgriff, Pat Wirt, Carol De Meo, Grey Gilbert, Shirley Johnstad, Mabel Smith, John Preston, Burl and Lillian Tatum, Mr. and Mrs. Conners, Noni and Joan Nichols, Mary Ann and Nana McDonald, Barbara Albert and a new Appaloosa, Tam Bever, Ralph and Alicia Coffey, visiting Arizona horsewoman Barbara Fritche. Roy and John Fefley, Harold Knudsen, Charles Hall, dropped by to say hello.

Winning games and equitation events after lunch were: Pat and Marie Mott, handkerchief race; Carol De Meo, Equitation and water race; Carol Cosgriff and Marie Mott, pairs class. We are still puckered up from helping Pat Wirt and Barbara Fritche win the Whistling Race.

RIDE — SEPTEMBER 23

MEET: at the Crossroads, 10 a. m. or Portuguese Flat, 10:30.

BRING: your lunch; coffee will be served at the arena.

ROUTE: Crossroads to Portuguese Flat via Bacon Road; Windy Gulch to Oak Knoll, back on ridge and front trail thence past Punch Bowl and back to Bacon Road, visiting Cerros Estrellados Ranch en route to the arena. Games at the arena.

LEADERS: Bonnie Hooper, Onalee Phillips.

TIME: about 3 hours.

BOOTS AND JEANS

OVER NIGHT RIDE

LEAVE: Skyline & Redwood, 12:30 p. m. on Saturday, September 15 riding to Bud Vogel's Crow Canyon Ranch; return on Sunday, September 16.

TOTAL COST including dinner, hay, dance, breakfast—\$5.50; or separate tickets can be purchased for each event. Bring your own sleeping bags. Contact Vi Vogel—LUcerne 2-8228, or Dutch Cummings—ANdover 1-1455 or TWinoaks 3-3226 for further information.

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AT THE RANCHES

DOUBLE WW RANCH won many honors at the Santa Barbara National Horse Show with Walleen Grondona taking first in children's mounts, Mrs. Grondona and the children winning the family class, and Mrs. Grondona winning the light weight trail class and second in the stake.

At the Alameda County Fair Horse Show, Walleen won first in children's mounts; Walter Jr., second. At Petaluma, Walleen first; Walter Jr., fourth.

Walter, Jr., mounted on a huge draft horse with his sister's small flat saddle and her first English riding clothes and a derby that came down over his eyes, a huge cigar, again took first in Fancy Turnout.

At the Livermore Show, Walleen won first in both English and Western horsemanship and Walter Jr. took second. Mrs. Grondona on Rugged Annie took first in western pleasure, second on Cindy, third on Starlight Madonna in three-gaited.

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Shortly after arriving home from Santa Barbara, the Grondonas were awakened by flames which completely burned their barn. All of the fine horses were saved.

DIAMOND B RANCH has two new registered Tennessee Walkers, Fisher's Goldenrod, 6 year old palomino owned by Mrs. Thomas Bacon, and Jesse Nicholls' Chuck.

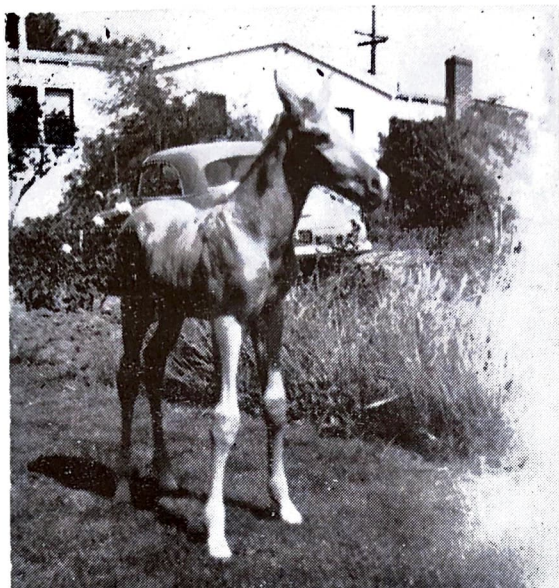
Taj Mahal, half Arab owned by Tom Bacon is being trained for the Pomona Arabian Show. Registered Arab, Abu Ruwais, 2 year old gelding, is now owned by Ysabelle Parrish. Cow Girl is the new quarter horse owned by Frank Parrish.

Busy people recently: Bernard Allard who did the program job for the Sonoma Trail Blazers; Frankie Deborah Parrish riding Golden Topper daily.

A mix-up: a colt, a steep bank, a creek, Frank Parrish and a broken arm.

Secret: a gentleman buying a new saddle and not telling his wife . . yet.

THE TRAIL BLAZER



IT'S A GIRL
NAME
SUNDAY MORN
ARRIVED
MAY, 27, 51, 6:15 AM
WEIGHT 90 LBS
PROUD OWNER
BARBARA ANDERSON

"NUTS TO OLD AGE"

"There's nothing to this old-age stuff," says Smoky, Jim Myers' faithful horse whose picture appeared in the Horse Show issue of the Trail Blazer.

"Why, I was born in 1932 and never entered competition until 1949, and look at the ribbons and trophies I collected for Jim's den. Naturally I feel that he should let me in to look at them once in awhile."

Smoky won the Pole Bending event at the George Daniels' Field Day in 1949, 1950 and took first at the Contra Costa County Fair in 1949. He won 2nd and 4th in the walking race. In 1950 he won the Pole Bending events at the MHA Horse Show, took Jim on the Sonoma Trail Blazers' Ride and won a blue ribbon in trail horse class. "Lot's of people there were more tired than I," said Smoky.

At the 10th Annual California State Horsemen's Association Blue Ribbon Horse Show at Palm Springs in 1950, Smoky won 4th in Pole Bending.

"I heard Jim making some derogatory remarks about 'when the sands of the desert grow cold' but you can't fool me, it was 120 and not a tree in sight. This old age stuff is all in the head."

SEPTEMBER, 1951

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CHUCK WAGON BREAKFAST

Plans for the Chuck Wagon Breakfast and Region V Elimination Championship are complete for September 9 at the Aahmes Shrine Rangers Ranch on Skyline Boulevard. Breakfast will be served from 9:30 a. m. to 12:00 noon.

Combined tickets for breakfast and show are \$2.25; for show only, \$1.00; for breakfast only, \$1.50. Tickets can be secured from Mary Gale, M. H. A. Secretary, at any of the stables, or from Aahmes Mounted Patrol, 13400 Skyline Boulevard. For further information about the breakfast phone Colonel Adams, TRinidad 2-4862; for information about the show, phone George Walling, GLencourt 1-8000. Get your tickets soon so Mel Coe will know how many hams to take out of the old smokehouse.

On Saturday, September 8 at 1 o'clock the Junior Eliminations will be held, continuing at 10 a. m. on Sunday.

Sunday's show in addition to the competitive events will include the Boots and Jeans Square Dance, Cutting Horse Class, trick riding and fancy roping.

Acting as judges will be: Dick Decker of Los Altos for horsemanship; B. J. Caughey, Drill Teams; Nye Wilson, manager of the Cow Palace, Showmanship.

Handling arrangements at the Shrine Rangers Ranch are Dr. Jim Campbell, Jack Marlin and Bob Coats who have supervised road grading, fence painting, and ground clearing; Frank Kelly heading the program committee; Colonel Adams in charge of tickets; Archie Brown, parking arrangements; Bill Ludolph, refreshments chairman and Joe Young, finance chairman.

* * * *

WE ARE PROUD of our fellow-member George Walling, Fifth Regional Vice-President, who has done an outstanding job. WE CAN SHOW OUR APPRECIATION by appearing en masse at the Regional Eliminations on Sept. 8-9, and by attending the Regional dinner on September 29. The M.H.A. calendar has purposely been kept cleared so all can attend.

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Class 2—Calf Roping
(2 man team)

Class 3—Relay Race
(5 man team)

Class 4—Team Roping
(2 man team)

Class 5—Tilting or Ring Spearing
(4 man team)

Class 6—Pole Bending

Class 7—Quadrangle Stake Race

Class 8—Junior All-Around Championship
(also Junior English and Junior Western
Championships)

Class 9—Squads, or Sets of Four

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(Tear off here)

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Name

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NOTES OF RIDING GROUPS

THE BRIDDOONS, a mixed riding group, stage their rides from different areas each month, usually renting horses. This year they have ridden from St. Francis Stables through Golden Gate Park, from Marin and Meadow Club Stables in the Marin-Mt. Tamalpais areas. In the East Bay, they have ridden from Miss Graham's and Highland Stables. A most congenial group, they have picnics and barbecues, and their efficient secretary always sends a nice "thank you" note to the stables where they have ridden.

CASTRO VALLEY HORSEMEN have a mimeographed newsletter which features a mystery writer, El Caballero de la Noche who recently stated: "It is darn poor manners on narrow or steep trails to allow your own mount to get closer than one and a half lengths to the horse in front of you. Aside from the fact that the horse in front might be a kicker and injure your own horse, there exists a real danger in a pile-up."

EQUESTRIAN TRAILS, INC., Corral No. 1 of Long Beach had a booth in a recent hobby show and exhibited horse photographs, drawings, ribbons, trophies, club publicity books, saddles, tack. They were delighted to find that visitors showed great interest in horses and wanted to know where to buy a horse, where to rent or board one, where to get riding lessons. The organization's membership committee was on hand to pass out club magazines and membership blanks.

MHA JUNIORS could well stage a hobby show by themselves. There are members who make posters, who cook and could

serve refreshments. Junior hobbies include: stamp collections, knitting, leathercraft, fishing equipment, photography, hundreds of dog and horse statues, tropical fish, live horses, dogs, and cats. There could be music too, and an exhibition of square dancing. How about this for a winter project?

EAU CLAIRE TRAIL RIDERS of Wisconsin recently sent the Trail Blazer copies of their publications including a newspaper-size pictorial number containing 79 pictures of the club's activities. Their horse show program contained some events we might try: Ladies' and Girls' Musical Hat, Rescue Race, Juvenile Package Race, and a Quarter Mile Race. We note their Weaving Race rules: one-handed ride. Horses to canter through poles. Horse must not break gait. Riders must not touch leather.

The Eau Claire Riders have their own ring, and a meeting place.

THE ALL ARABIAN HORSE SHOW just held at the Cow Palace attracted 6,000 people and was a brilliant success which is a mighty fine record for an organization two years old. Makes us look sort of puny.

With 144 purebred Arabians entered, Jedel Arabian Ranch of Richmond came out with Show Champion Stallion and Show Champion Mare both beautifully exhibited by Mr. Van den Berg, who drills the Sheriff's Posse.

Some M.H.A. members taking part in the show were the Beauchamps, Kisa Beeck, Margaret Rukavina, Jimmy Black. Larry G. Duff of Oakland acted as Horse Show Manager.

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HONORS

Had we a Carnegie among horsemen, he might well establish a fund for rewarding heroes who prevent accidents and save lives at horse events, and we would nominate Jose de la Torre for such an award. At the recent Arabian horse show, during the stock horse class, a horse gone wild because of a rope under his leg, took off at a fast pace dragging a filled sack, clipping and injuring a dismounted rider, hazarding the judge and other officials. With the sack careening wildly through the ring, riders were also in danger. Jose de la Torre at risk of injury to himself and his horse made a spectacular catch of the runaway.

On vacation in Mowich, Oregon, Jimmy Black, Jr., is credited with saving the village from destruction by fire by practicing the fire-fighting methods he learned as a Boy Scout. Discovering a fire burning in forest debris and flames spreading toward the town, Jimmy dug a fire trail and was able to surround the fire. As an honor for his work, he was made a member of the Green Guards of the Keep Oregon Green organization, and was recommended for a "Service Under Fire Award."

Beverly Hutton, M.H.A. Junior from Danville, won the Sweepstakes trophy for having the highest scoring mount in the two-day, 60 mile El Caballo Volante trail ride. She competed against 59 other juniors on her Arab-quarter horse mare Donna C.

Other winners on the El Caballo Volante ride were: Bob Massone, senior division horsemanship; senior division ride, 1st, Beverly Hutton, 2nd Joan Prifold, 3rd Ivan Van Gelder, 4th Marion Parson. Intermediate division horsemanship, Davey Krueckel; intermediate division ride: Sheron Pierce 1st, Cora Prifold 2nd, Margaret Kelley 3rd, Jackie Marchio 4th; junior division horsemanship: Gail Hough; junior division ride, John Scott, 1st, Maur- een Cardinet 2nd, Jackie De Rosa 3rd, Gail Hough 4th.



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INTRODUCING OUR MEMBERS

SENIORS—

Dr. Robert R. Pinger, physician and surgeon of Concord, owns Comet, three-quarter thoroughbred, and is a member of the Concord-Mt. Diablo Trail Ride group.

Sam G. Denner is State Director, State Farm Insurance Company, rides western and goes in for fishing and gardening; John E. Landon, office manager for a firm of consulting engineers, indulges in riding, photography and archery.

M. J. Collins rides with the Boots and Jeans on Peaches, standardbred chestnut sorrel mare who is eligible for registration with the U. S. Trotting Association; Bill Reynolds also a western rider, goes in for reading and singing.

Doris Marlin of San Lorenzo does photography; Jack E. Marlin is a member of the Aahmes Mounted Patrol. Diogenes can stop his search for the Honest Man . . . Jack gave his real age when he answered his membership application blank . . . but we won't tell.

Beverley B. Ludlum, associated with the personnel department of Consolidated Western Steel, flies and rides and would like to serve on the trails committee.

Dolores and Dom Purpura of San Leandro, new members this year, would like to serve on the activities committee.

Florence De Gorog owns two Morgans, Poncho and El Lu . . . gardening and carpentry are Florence's hobbies.

Lyman E. Hawks who goes in for hunting, fishing, and model railroading, owns Abner, a Tennessee Walker. Wonder if we can line up enough Tennessee Walkers for a class at the 10th Annual horse show?

Kirby Ray Morgan of Lafayette is a member of the Concord-Mt. Diablo Trail Ride group and attends Modesto Junior College where he majors in agriculture. He would like to help with the juniors.

Mrs. John M. Wyman rides western. She is busy with all sorts of activities. Mrs. Prentiss E. Monson is another western rider.

Mrs. Mabel Wallace rides from the Mountain Riding Club and we were glad to meet her on the July trail ride.

George L. H. Loram of Berkeley owns Golden Twinkle, palomino filly from the Frank L. King Stables of Lafayette. He hopes to have Twinkle in the 1952 MHA show. Mr. Loram is a consulting engineer whose hobbies are trail riding, leathercraft, and photography. He would like to serve on the Trail Committee.

Arthur E. Troiel, owner of Troiel Companies, Inc., owns a western pleasure horse, Topsy.

JUNIORS—

Jeanne Marie Mott owns Sanada an Arab-saddlebred-standardbred mare and rides with the Subalterns at Cressmount. Sanada's sire was a gray Arabian, her grand dam a standardbred and her grand-sire was Sun Beau Chief, saddlebred. Since October 1950, Sandra and Jeanne have collected 15 blue ribbons! Jeanne would like to serve on a junior committee.

Maralee Armstrong rides Palomar, a stallion owned by Joy Wood. Maralee attends Claremont Junior High and would like to serve on the Trails Committee.

Betsy Inch rides with the Subalterns at Cressmount and attends Piedmont Junior High.

Nancy Luyendyk who made such a splendid showing at the Oakland Mounted Police Show, is in the L-12 at Fremont. Little John is the name of her three-quarter thoroughbred hunter.

Another promising rider is Sue Murphy who rides with the Subalterns at Cressmount. She attends Oakland high where she is active in student body affairs.

Ronnie Lopes attends Castlemont; is interested in commercial art. Ronnie Casaleggio attends Fremont, and owns Misty, thoroughbred-quarter horse and goes in for roping and rodeo events.

Janet Stone who owns Cricket, standardbred, attends Bancroft Junior High where she is active in G. A. A.

Marv Walker's hobbies are riding, camping, swimming. He is a low senior at Oakland High.

Phyllis Jean Phillips is the owner of Rhythm's Rhapsody and rides with the Subalterns at Cressmount. She attends Anna Head's School where she belongs to the glee and art clubs. She would like to assist the MHA by making posters.

Mary Langer rides with the Subalterns at Cressmount and is a member of the A. H. S. A. She does painting and drawing and attends Holy Names Central High where she is a member of the orchestra and serves on a literature committee.

NOTICE

CALIFORNIA STATE HORSEMEN'S CONVENTION

has been moved to the San Joaquin County Fair Grounds at Stockton and the dates changed to OCTOBER 11, 12, 13, 14. Make hotel reservations with Convention Committee, Chamber of Commerce, Stockton.

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